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application.

Information Disclosure Statement

In accordance with their duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicants would like to direct the Examiner's attention to the following references which are on the attached Form PTO-1449 (**Exhibit 5**) were previously cited in connection with the prosecution of U.S. Serial No. 09/058,333 and PCT International Application NO. PCT/US97/18222 from which the subject application claims priority under 35 U.S.C. §120. According to 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d), copies of patents or publications that were previously cited by, or submitted to, the Office in connection with such prior applications need not accompany the Information Disclosure Statement. Accordingly, copies of the following references are not attached to this Information Disclosure Statement:

1. U.S. Patent No. 5,290,808, issued March 1, 1994, Sofia, et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,436,128, issued July 25, 1995, Harpold, et al.;
3. U.S. Patent No. 5,436,155, issued July 25, 1995, Bell, et al.;
4. U.S. Patent No. 5,462,856, issued October 31, 1995, Lerner, et al.;
5. U.S. Patent No. 5,508,164, issued April 16, 1996, Kausch, et al.
6. U.S. Patent No. 5,567,714, issued October 22, 1996, Bruns, et al.;

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If a telephone conference would be of assistance in advancing the prosecution of the subject application, applicants' undersigned attorney invites the Examiner to telephone the number provided below.

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No fee, other than the enclosed \$370.00 fee for filing the subject application, is deemed necessary in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment and Information Disclosure Statement. However, if any additional fee is required, authorization is hereby given to charge the amount of any such fee to Deposit Account No. 03-3125.

Respectfully submitted,



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